

Introduction

This collection of four complete practice tests comprises past papers from the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations Key English Test (KET) examination; students can practise these tests on their own or with the help of a teacher.

The KET examination is part of a group of examinations developed by Cambridge ESOL called the Cambridge Main Suite. The Main Suite consists of five examinations that have similar characteristics but are designed for different levels of English language ability. Within the five levels, KET is at Level A2 in the *Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment*. It has also been accredited by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority in the UK as an Entry 2 ESOL certificate in the National Qualifications Framework. The KET examination offers a basic qualification in English and also represents a first step for those wishing to progress towards the Preliminary English Test (PET) and other Cambridge ESOL examinations.

Examination	Council of Europe Framework Level	UK National Qualifications Framework Level
CPE Certificate of Proficiency in English	C2	3
CAE Certificate in Advanced English	C1	2
FCE First Certificate in English	B2	1
PET Preliminary English Test	B1	Entry 3
KET Key English Test	A2	Entry 2

Introduction

Further information

The information contained in this practice book is designed to be an overview of the exam. For a full description of all the above exams, including information about task types, testing focus and preparation, please see the relevant handbooks which can be obtained from Cambridge ESOL at the address below or from the website at www.cambridgeESOL.org

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The structure of KET: an overview

The KET examination has three papers: Reading and Writing, Listening and Speaking.

Paper 1 Reading and Writing (1 hour 10 minutes)

The Reading and Writing paper has nine parts and a total of 50 marks.

This paper assesses candidates' ability to read and understand factual texts from signs, brochures, newspapers and magazines. For reading, candidates need to be able to understand the main messages, and have ways of dealing with unfamiliar words and structures. For writing, candidates are assessed on their ability to complete gaps in simple texts, transfer information to forms, and complete an everyday writing task, such as a short note or message of around 20–25 words, to show they can use structure, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.

Paper 2 Listening (approximately 30 minutes including 8 minutes to transfer answers)

The Listening paper has five parts and a total of 25 marks.

This paper assesses candidates' ability to understand recorded material such as announcements and monologues, delivered at a moderate pace, and to understand factual information in the recordings.

Paper 3 Speaking (8–10 minutes)

The Speaking test has two parts and a total of 25 marks.

The test assesses candidates' ability to interact in conversational English with an examiner and with another candidate. Candidates need to be able to answer questions about themselves and to talk freely about their likes and dislikes. Candidates normally take the Speaking test in pairs.

Grading

The Reading and Writing paper carries 50% of the total marks, while the Listening and Speaking tests carry 25% each. There are two pass grades ('Pass with Merit' and 'Pass') and certificates are normally issued to candidates who achieve these grades. A 'Pass' grade usually corresponds to approximately 70% of the total marks, and 'Pass with Merit' to approximately 85%. There is no minimum pass mark for individual papers. Candidates who achieve a 'Narrow Fail' or 'Fail' are judged not to have reached the required standard for KET.

For further information on grading and results, please go to the website (see page 6).

Test 1

PAPER 1 READING AND WRITING (1 hour 10 minutes)

PART 1

QUESTIONS 1-5

Which notice (A–H) says this (1–5)?

For questions 1–5, mark the correct letter A–H on your answer sheet.

Example:

0 You can take your old shirts or trousers here.

Answer:

0	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1 These cost less than usual.

A

KEEP THIS MEDICINE
AWAY FROM CHILDREN

2 This is a bad time to be ill.

B

Check your holiday insurance now –
before you go away.

3 Be careful where you put this.

C

SORRY!
No showers in the Sports Centre this week

4 You will need to take a heavy sweater
or jacket with you.

D

**Dr Jenkins is on holiday
until Friday.**

5 You will not be able to wash yourself
here for a few days.

E

TODAY
Day trip to the mountains
Wear something warm!

F

CAR WASH – £4
We'll make it look like new

G

All our winter holidays –
25% cheaper

H

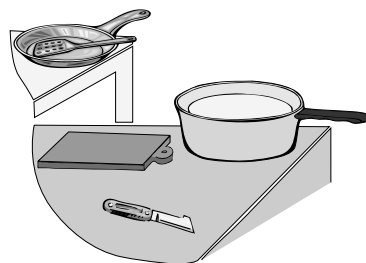
*We buy and sell
second-hand clothes.*

PART 2**QUESTIONS 6–10**

Read the sentences about cooking a meal.

Choose the best word (A, B or C) for each space.

For questions 6–10, mark A, B or C on your answer sheet.

**Example:**

0 Last week, Louise some friends at her new school.

A made

B started

C played

Answer:

0	A	B	C
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6 She all of them to dinner at her house on Saturday evening.

A phoned

B invited

C said

7 Louise wrote the things she needed to buy for the meal on a of paper.

A piece

B slice

C part

8 She was on Saturday morning so she went shopping in the afternoon.

A full

B busy

C difficult

9 Louise two hours cooking the meal.

A waited

B spent

C passed

10 When the meal was , everyone sat down to eat.

A right

B sure

C ready

Test 1

PART 3

QUESTIONS 11–15

Complete the five conversations.

For questions 11–15, mark A, B or C on your answer sheet.

Example:

0



Where do you come from?



- A New York.
- B School.
- C Home.

Answer:

0	A	B	C
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>11 Are you sure the match starts at two?</p> <p>12 I saw the new Spielberg film last night.</p> <p>13 How did the accident happen?</p> <p>14 Hello, I'd like to speak to Mr Green, please.</p> <p>15 May I leave now?</p> | <p>A It started well.</p> <p>B It's all right.</p> <p>C I think so.</p>
<p>A Did I go?</p> <p>B Has he come?</p> <p>C Was it good?</p>
<p>A I can't go there.</p> <p>B I didn't see it.</p> <p>C I don't know how to.</p>
<p>A Sorry, can you say that again?</p> <p>B I'm sorry, I'll call again later.</p> <p>C I'm afraid I don't know.</p>
<p>A When we've finished.</p> <p>B Until tomorrow.</p> <p>C I don't agree.</p> |
|--|---|

QUESTIONS 16–20

Complete the conversation.

What does Tom say to the receptionist?

For questions 16–20, mark the correct letter A–H on your answer sheet.

Example:

Receptionist: Good evening, can I help you?

Tom: **0**

Answer:

0	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Receptionist: I'm afraid all our single rooms are full. How long do you want to stay?

Tom: **16**

Receptionist: I have a double room for £60.

Tom: **17**

Receptionist: I'm sure they're full too. There are a lot of tourists in town at the moment.

Tom: **18**

Receptionist: I'm afraid the restaurant is closed. Breakfast starts at 7 tomorrow.

Tom: **19**

Receptionist: Your room must be empty by 12 o'clock. But you can put your luggage in reception.

Tom: **20**

Receptionist: Would you write your name in the book, please?

A I see. Can I get something to eat in this hotel?

B Would you show me the room?

C I'm looking for a single room.

D What time does it finish?

E If I stay here, can I leave my suitcase in my room tomorrow afternoon?

F That's rather expensive. Are there any other hotels near here?

G Just for one night.

H OK. I'll take the room.

Test 1

PART 4

QUESTIONS 21–27

Read the article about **Bill Bryson**, a writer.

Are sentences 21–27 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B)?

If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B), choose 'Doesn't say' (C).

For questions 21–27, mark A, B or C on your answer sheet.



Bill Bryson



I was born in the United States but I have written several travel books about England. I lived there with my wife and four children for 20 years, but for the last three years we have lived in the United States. Our children are now learning about life in the United States. I'm sure they will be happier because they have lived in two countries. I like Britain and I want to return, but my daughter, Felicity, is going to start college here soon, so it won't be for another four years.

I have just been to England for six weeks to work on a radio programme about the English language and also to talk about the book I've just written. Most writers don't like doing this; they don't like travelling around the country, selling their book. I don't mind it. I like visiting new places and meeting lots of people. It's very different from the life I have in the United States when I'm writing. In England, people drove me around in big cars and I stayed in expensive hotels. It was good because I didn't have to pay any bills. Everyone was kind to me and it was fun.

Example:

0 Bill has written about a country he has visited.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

Answer:

0	A	B	C
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21 Bill returned to the United States after living in England for a long time.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

22 Bill thinks it will be good for his children to live in more than one country.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

23 Bill's daughter didn't want to go to college in England.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

24 Bill has just visited England to finish writing his new book.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

25 Bill is happy with the things he has to do to sell his books.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

26 Bill has travelled to many different places in the United States.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say

27 It cost Bill a lot of money to travel around England for six weeks.

A Right B Wrong C Doesn't say